

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 046020
ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 ACDA-12 IO-13
EA-10 PCH-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 SIG-01 OIC-02 /112 R

DRAFTED BY PM/DCA: MARIETTI: MJT
APPROVED BY PM: JKAHAN
NEA - HPRECHT
EUR/SOV - SMCCALL
ACDA - JTWOMBLY
AF/I - LT. COL. CARROL
IO - RBERRY

-----122408 222334Z /64

O 222204Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO INDIAN OCEAN COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE
CINCLANT IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC IMMEDIATE
CINCPACFLT IMMEDIATE
CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE
COMIDESTFOR IMMEDIATE
USINT BAGHDAD POUCH
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO POUCH
XMT USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T STATE 046020

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM, XO

SUBJECT: ROUND IV US-SOVIET INDIAN OCEAN TALKS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 046020

1. FOURTH ROUND OF US-SOVIET TALKS ON INDIAN OCEAN ARMS
LIMITATIONS TOOK PLACE FEBRUARY 7-17 IN BERN, SWITZERLAND.
POSTS ARE AUTHORIZED, IF THEY FEEL IT APPROPRIATE, TO BRIEF
HOST GOVERNMENT ON RESULTS OF THIS ROUND. AS PREVIOUSLY,
DEPARTMENT WILL BRIEF AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, FRANCE, UK,
AND JAPAN IN WASHINGTON. THERE WILL ALSO BE A BRIEFING FOR

NATO IN BRUSSELS. IN LINE WITH PREVIOUS PRACTICE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO BRIEF CERTAIN INDIAN OCEAN LITTORAL STATES IN WASHINGTON IF REQUESTED BY THEIR EMBASSIES.

2. FOR USUN: FOLLOWING IS AGREED JOINT US-SOVIET FRAMEWORK STATEMENT TO BE USED IN BRIEFING UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN. YOU SHOULD COORDINATE WITH SMUN ON TIMING OF BRIEFING TO CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

- FROM FEBRUARY 7 TO 17 IN BERN, SWITZERLAND, THE DELEGATIONS OF THE USSR AND US HELD FURTHER BILATERAL TALKS ON QUESTIONS CONCERNING ARMS LIMITATIONS MEASURES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE DELEGATIONS CONTINUED TO DISCUSS PROPO-

SALS PUT FORWARD BY BOTH SIDES. THE US DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY AMBASSADOR PAUL C. WARNKE AND THE SOVIET DELEGATION BY AMBASSADOR L. I. MENDELEVICH.

- DURING THE COURSE OF THE SESSION, THE TWO SIDES MET IN BOTH PLENARY MEETINGS AND IN WORKING GROUPS. THE DISCUSSIONS WERE FRANK AND USEFUL AND CONTRIBUTED TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSITIONS OF EACH SIDE.

- THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN A CERTAIN MEASURE OF AGREEMENT ON A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS, INCLUDING THE DESIRABILITY OF A STAGED APPROACH BEGINNING WITH AN AGREEMENT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 046020

NOT TO INCREASE CURRENT MILITARY PRESENCE AND MOVING ON PROMPTLY TO NEGOTIATIONS ON REDUCTIONS.

- A DRAFTING GROUP EMBARKED UPON THE DEVELOPMENT OF INITIAL JOINT DRAFT TEXTS OF SEVERAL PARTS OF THE AGREEMENT. THESE TEXTS CONTAINED COMMON LANGUAGE ON AGREED POINTS AND BRACKETED LANGUAGE IN THOSE AREAS WHERE DIFFERENCES STILL EXIST.

- TWO WORKING GROUPS OF EXPERTS WERE ESTABLISHED. THESE WORKING GROUPS HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS ON TECHNICAL ISSUES (E.G., THE DEFINITION OF TRANSIT). THE EXPERTS GROUPS WILL CONTINUE TO EXAMINE TECHNICAL AREAS WHICH ARE NOT YET AGREED.

- THE DATE OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS OF TWO DELEGATIONS WILL BE FIXED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT.

3. FOR ALL INDIAN OCEAN LITTORAL EMBASSIES: YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON ABOVE IN BRIEFING HOST GOVERNMENTS AT AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL CONCERNING RESULTS OF THIS ROUND. IN ADDITION, YOU MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH.

- -- DURING THE COURSE OF THIS ROUND THE US MADE CLEAR THAT IT REGARDS CURRENT SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN THE HORN OF AFRICA AND THE ASSOCIATED INCREASE IN SOVIET NAVAL FORCES AS BEING INCONSISTENT WITH BOTH THE SPIRIT AND SUBSTANCE OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE AIMED AT PREVENTING ANY INCREASE IN THE MILITARY PRESENCE OF EITHER SIDE. (THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER NUMBER OF SOVIET COMBATANTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN IN RECENT MONTHS THAN ARE NORMALLY PRESENT.) THE US ALSO STATED THAT THE CURRENT LEVEL OF SOVIET ACTIVITY IN THE REGION IS A SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT TO EARLY PROGRESS IN THESE TALKS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 046020

4. FOR TEHRAN, NEW DELHI, COLOMBO, ISLAMABAD, MAPUTO, JIDDA, NAIROBI: IN ADDITION TO PARAS. 2 AND 3, YOU MAY ALSO DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING MORE DETAILED INFORMATION IN BRIEFING HOST GOVERNMENT:

- -- THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE POSITIONS OF EITHER PARTY ON THE MAJOR ISSUES DURING THIS ROUND. BOTH SIDES RESTATED THEIR POSITIONS AND REITERATED THE REASONS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR STAND ON THE MAJOR ISSUES.
 - -- THE MOST SIGNIFICANT AREAS OF DIFFERENCE CONTINUE TO BE:
 - -- WHAT LIMITATIONS SHOULD BE PLACED ON STRATEGIC SYSTEMS.
 - -- HOW THE QUESTION OF SUPPORT FACILITIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE AGREEMENT. IN THE US VIEW, SINCE THE AGREEMENT WILL PLACE LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF ASHORE SUPPORT FACILITIES, THERE SHOULD ALSO BE LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF AFLOAT SUPPORT FACILITIES, WHICH ARE USED EXTENSIVELY BY THE SOVIETS. THE UNITED STATES SUGGESTED A DEFINITION OF A ROUTINE PORT CALL AND THE SOVIETS HAVE AGREED TO STUDY THIS DEFINITION. IN THE US VIEW IF EITHER SIDE CONDUCTS SUPPORT ACTIVITY, EITHER ASHORE OR AFLOAT, IN AN INDIAN OCEAN PORT THAT GOES BEYOND THE DEFINITION OF A ROUTINE PORT CALL, THEN THIS WOULD CONSTITUTE UTILIZATION OF A PORT AND WOULD BE LIMITED BY THE AGREEMENT.
 - -- ALLIES AND ADJACENT AREAS. THE SOVIETS CONTINUE TO STATE THAT THESE ISSUES NEED TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE AGREEMENT. THE US POSITION IS THAT THEY ARE NOT
- SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 046020

WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT.

- -- DEFINITION OF THE AREA. THERE IS STILL A DIFFERENCE OF VIEW CONCERNING THE WATERS NORTH AND SOUTH OF AUSTRALIA.

- -- IN ADDITION, EXPERTS GROUPS BEGAN WORK ON SEVERAL TECHNICAL ISSUES SUCH AS THE DEFINITION OF AN AUXILIARY SHIP. WHILE THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT ON THIS DEFINITION, THE SOVIET SIDE WISHES TO EXCLUDE THESE SHIPS FROM LIMITATIONS; THE US WISHES TO INCLUDE THESE UNDER THE RESTRICTIONS OF THE AGREEMENT.

- -- THE EXPERTS GROUP ALSO CONSIDERED THE QUESTION OF SHIPS IN TRANSIT THROUGH THE INDIAN OCEAN. WHILE BOTH SIDES AGREE THAT SUCH SHIPS SHOULD NOT COUNT AS PART OF MILITARY PRESENCE, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF VIEW ON THE PERIOD OF TIME PERMITTED TO SUCH SHIPS TO COMPLETE THEIR TRANSIT. BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO REVIEW THIS QUESTION.

5. SELECTION OF POSTS AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PER PARA. 4 IS BASED ON EXPRESSED INTEREST OF GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED AS WELL AS CLOSENESS OF RELATIONS. WHILE LATTER POINT ALSO APPLIES TO CERTAIN OTHER LITTORAL COUNTRIES, WE ARE RELUCTANT AT THIS STAGE TO EXTEND SCOPE OF MORE DETAILED BRIEFINGS WHERE THERE IS LITTLE OR NO EXPRESSED INITIATIVE FROM LITTORAL STATES. IF SUCH INTEREST BECOMES MANIFEST OR IF AMBASSADOR BELIEVES MORE DETAILED BRIEFING WOULD CLEARLY BE USEFUL, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE INFORMED.

6. FOR CANBERRA. WHILE DETAILED BRIEFINGS WILL CONTINUE TO BE GIVEN HERE AND MEMCON SENT TO POSTS, YOU MAY DRAW ON ALL POINTS OF THIS CABLE IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES, INDICATING THAT AMBASSADOR RENOUF WILL BE BRIEFED SHORTLY IN GREATER DETAIL. VANCE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 06 STATE 046020

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED TO BAGHDAD AND MOGADISCIO.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE046020
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MARIETTI:MJT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780082-1136
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780226/aaaaavsl.tel
Line Count: 219
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ab042bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3515731
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROUND IV US-SOVIET INDIAN OCEAN TALKS SECRET SECRET
TAGS: PARM, XO, US, UR
To: INDIAN OCEAN COLLECTIVE KABUL MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ab042bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014